



Official Description of Biographical Informative

WHAT ARE “PUBLIC ADDRESS” SPEECH EVENTS?

Public address speeches are individual events in which the competitor chooses a topic that meets the event’s criteria, writes an original speech, memorizes it, and then presents it within the allowable time frame.

WHAT IS BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATIVE?

Biographical Informative is a public address speech event in which the competitor presents an original, factual, memorized speech about the life of a historical or contemporary individual. The use of visual aids is required; however, this does not include costumes.

THE PURPOSE OF BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATIVE SPEECHES

The purpose of biographical informative speech is not primarily to entertain, persuade, motivate, or explain something that is already common knowledge, but instead it is to provide the audience with new information about a person of interest.

STRUCTURE OF THE BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATIVE SPEECH

Each original biographical informative speech should be well-organized, and include an introduction with a clearly stated thesis, two to four main points with supporting sub-points, and a conclusion. Examples, illustrations, and definitions should be used as support for the main points of the speech. All direct quotations must be properly cited.

TIME LIMIT

Time begins when the speaker begins speaking and ends when the speaker has finished speaking. Maximum speech length for varsity competitors is 10 minutes total. There is no minimum time requirement.

GUIDELINES

As for all CCofSE “Public Address” speech events:

- Only feet are permitted to touch the floor at any time.
- The use of facial expression, vocal variety and appropriate gestures is encouraged.
- Physical movement, such as taking steps while speaking, should be limited to the center of the presentation space.
- Humor and satire are permitted. Vulgarity, racial slurs and inappropriate humor are not allowed.
- Memorization of the student's original work is required. No scripts, notes, or prompting are allowed.
- The delivery of the speech should be enthusiastic, direct, sincere, and communicative, using good vocal variety, clear enunciation, fluency, and appealing to the interests of the audience.
- All directly quoted and/or paraphrased material must be properly cited in the speech.
- Use of a speech from any prior year is prohibited.
- The student must provide a typed copy of the speech to the Tournament Registrar upon arriving at the tournament. See script submission.

Specific to this event:

- A professional presentation is desirable, rather than a theatrical one.
- Speeches must be on the life of a real person. No fictional characters are permitted.
- The use of visual aids is required. The student has the option of using 3 dimensional aids or virtual aids



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USING VISUAL AIDS

Visual aids are intended to supplement, enhance, or reinforce the speaker's message. Visual aids should be handled smoothly and without distracting from the content of the speech. Visual aids may consist of either 3-dimensional or virtual aids which are detailed below. They may not be combined.

3-Dimensional aids

- May consist of up to five (5) foam-core type boards or a combination of boards and one prop, for a total of no more than five (5) actual objects.
- The presentation must begin and end with a blank board.
- The Tournament Director will provide an easel in the front of the room. All competitors assigned to speak in that room who need an easel for their presentation must use the easel provided by the Tournament Director.

Boards:

- Each board should be no larger than 20" x 30".
- The speech should begin and end with a blank board on top. If the maximum of five boards is used for the presentation, one of the existing boards should be turned to the blank side to serve this purpose.

Props:

- The prop may be any appropriate object the speaker can comfortably carry in and out of the room with their boards, all in one trip. This could include an article of clothing, which may not be worn during the presentation.
- The prop must be an individual object, not a tray or box of several props. The presenter can decide where best to keep the prop during the presentation.

Virtual aids

- Only Power Point using either Microsoft or Googledocs may be used for the presentation.
- The presentation is limited to no more than 11 slides.
- The presentation must begin and end with a blank slide.
- No embedded videos or links may be used
- Wifi may not be used
- The Tournament Director (TD) will designate a tournament official to oversee the submission of the Power Point presentation. It must be submitted by email (by attachment or sharing) by the deadline designated by the TD. The tournament official will open each presentation to make the determination that the technology is compatible with the tournament equipment and works as requested.
- The TD will provide a laptop with the needed files sent from the speaker, a projector which will allow the presentation to be shown at the front of the room and a device that will allow the speaker to move through the slides as needed.

Since the option of using power point slides is a new addition to this event, it should be noted that the steering committee understands the educational value in allowing the speakers practice using a program that is currently used in the academic and business world. It is our intention the slides be used in much the same way as the boards have been used. We recommend the speakers research what makes an effective power point presentation.